



Steps to follow when a VISTA sustains a service-related injury

AmeriCorps VISTA members are considered employees of the federal government for purposes of coverage under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), which is administered by the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) of the U.S. Department of Labor.

During VISTA service, all medical care coverage is provided by the AmeriCorps Health Benefits Plan, according to the benefits in the plan; all claims go to Seven Corners for processing. After termination of VISTA service, benefits approved under FECA begin and include payment for continuing medical care and compensation for wage loss and permanent impairment of certain members or functions of the body in the event of a service-related disability.

If a member is injured while in service and seeks medical attention:

1. The VISTA completes the [CA-1 form](#) (Federal Employee's Notice of Traumatic Injury and Claim for Continuation of Pay/Compensation). The VISTA signs the form and attaches the original medical claim that establishes the receipt of care for the injury. The CA-1 form should be **filed immediately** after seeking treatment for the service-related injury.
2. The VISTA Supervisor signs the form and sends it with the original medical claim to the CNCS State Office.
3. The CNCS State Office keeps a copy and submits the signed original to the Benefits Administrator in VISTA HQ:
Jennifer Veazey, jveazey@cns.gov, 202-606-6770.
4. The Benefits Administrator will verify the VISTA's term of service and forward the form and claim to the OWCP at the U.S. Department of Labor.
5. If accepted, the CA-1 form will remain on file with the OWCP to be used for follow-up treatment, once the VISTA member has completed service.

If the VISTA **does not receive medical treatment** for the injury, there is **no need** to complete a CA-1 form.

For further information, see [Federal Employees' Compensation Act](#) in Chapter 8 of the VISTA Member Handbook.